

Me and my friends

1) Reading comprehension:

Fred Corbett lives in a hostel for the homeless and sells as many copies of the Big Issue, a magazine by homeless people, as he can. He earns about £ 30 a week, which is very little money. Yet only a few years Fred was a millionaire, living the good life. What went wrong? He tells us his story.

“When I was 18 years old my parents died in a car accident and I inherited a huge amount of money. I had no other family and very few friends and so there was nobody I could talk to about my grief. The only thing that seemed to help was spending money unwisely. When people learned how much money I had, they became really friendly. I began to realize that most people only liked me for my money. ”

“I bought a helicopter and several cars, but I crashed all of them. On the advice of my accountant I bought a large number of shares in Barings Bank. Maybe you can guess what happened next. The bank went bankrupt, and I lost a fortune. I had hardly any money left, so of course I now had far fewer friends. When I finally ran out of money, none of my so-called friends stood by me, so I was friendless, homeless and penniless.”

“It is difficult to believe, but I’ m a lot happier now I’m so poor. I’ve made a couple of real friends at the hostel, Ken and Dave, and that’s more important to me than anything else. Something very important I’ve learned from my experience is that money can’t buy you love.

2) Underline the noun that is usually uncountable in each group.

Example: shirt fashion skirt tie blouse

a) Holiday	journey	flight	luggage	suitcase
b) Meal	dish	food	menu	dessert
c) Cheque	coin	cash	salary	bonus
d) Tractor	corn	barn	field	orchard
e) Raspberry	plum	fruit	fig	mango
f) Unemployment	employee	boss	profession	career
g) Health	pill	disease	operation	prescription

3) Complete the sentences with *some* or *any*.

- a) I did Exercise 1 without _____ help.
- b) Would you like _____ more fizzy mineral water? I don't want _____ more.
- c) _____ people don't have _____ problems learning foreign languages.
- d) Why don't you go ask your father to lend you _____ money? I haven't got _____.
- e) I didn't realize there were still _____ sandwiches left. I've made _____ more.

4) Complete the following sentences with a combination of these words:

Some	one
Any	+ body
No	thing
Every	where

- a) I don't care where we go on holiday as long as it's _____ hot.
- b) Does _____ want a cup of tea?
- c) I've looked _____ for my contact lens, but I can't find it _____.
- d) What do you want for dinner, Jerry? Oh, _____, I don't care!
- e) It's really boring at Aunt Sophia, there's absolutely _____ to do.
- f) I'll go _____ as long as I'm with you.
- g) Rachel is getting married to _____ she met on holiday.
- h) Our dog will go on a walk with _____.
- i) Paula is so nice. _____ likes her.

5) Rewrite the sentences with **very little**, **a little**, **very few**, **a few**, **fewer** or **less**.

- a) I'm on a diet so I'll just have four or five chips.
- b) I'll have a drop of water, just to wet my lips.
- c) Lots of people have tried to climb Everest, but not many have succeeded.
- d) Dave can speak fluent Spanish and some Italian.
- e) Not as many people smoke these days.
- f) It's been two or three years since we last saw him.